This study is aimed at interpreting the meanings of food and eating in domestic contexts. The methodology of the study is hermeneutical. The interviews and field notes were conducted in kitchens with people sitting at table. The sample was made up of 12 subjects chosen according to the notion of theoretical sampling. The results are presented in constellations of meanings organized as thematic units. They were grouped in central meanings labeled as follows: i) Cooking for my family, ii) Main chores, iii) The space of housework, iv) We eat while we talk, v) The digesting body, and vi) Hunger and its variants. It is concluded that food touches and is touched not only by the gustatory and olfactory senses but also by the affective climate at home.

Abstract

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Keywords

Kitchens and tables, everyday life, hermeneutics, qualitative research.